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EXAMINER

MILORD, MARCEAU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2618

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/727,244

Applicant(s)

DAYAN ET AL.

Examiner

Marceau Milord

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-9 and 11-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiotsu et al (US Patent No 6993358 B2) in view of Karstens et al (US Patent No 6745047 B1)

Regarding claims 1-2, 6, Shiotsu et al discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, the surface to couple to a first device (1 of fig. 1) through the at least one contact point to couple (col. 32- col. 5, line 21; col. 6, lines 31-63; col. 10, lines 7-55) to a second device (3 or 4 of fig. 1) through a second contact point (col. 8, lines 34-61; col. 9, lines 27-61; col. 12, lines 26-62).

However, Shiotsu et al does not specifically disclose the step of utilizing a surface to establish communication between the first device and the second device through the surface for data exchange, wherein the first and second devices do not include aerial wireless data capabilities.

Karstens et al, on the other hand, discloses a method and system for using a wireless enabled portable computer system as a wireless modem. The portable computer system may be a personal digital assistant having an internal wireless modem. The internal wireless modem contains a communication port that communicates with a processor of the portable computer system. The portable computer system also contains another communication port that is externally available for connection to a second computer system. A software bridge is provided that copies commands and/or data from the port1 over to the port2 and vice-versa. The software bridge allows the second computer system to directly use the internal wireless modem of the portable computer system when the portable computer system is connected to the second computer. The connection to the second computer system can be made by a wired connection or by a wireless connection, e.g., Bluetooth or infrared communication. The PDA thus extends wireless functionality to a second computer system using conventional connection mechanisms for communicating with the second computer system (col. 2, lines 21-60; col. 3, lines 8-42; col. 8, lines 30-65). Furthermore, the processor reads commands and data from the receive line of the externally accessible communication port. In addition, the software bridge performs a translation between the non- point-to-point protocol (PPP) transport received from the modem and a PPP transport supplied over link (col. 8, lines 43-64; col. 10, lines 1-42; col. 11, lines 2-31). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Karstens to the communication system of Shiotsu in order to execute instructions stored in the memory that implement

Regarding claim 4, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the surface is to provide a

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medium to exchange data between the first device and a third device, wherein the third device is coupled to the surface via a third contact point (col. 8, line 41- col. 9, line 10; col. 9, lines 27-61; col. 12, lines 26-62).

Regarding claim 5, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the surface is to provide a medium to exchange data between the third device and a fourth device coupled to the surface via fourth contact point (col. 9, lines 26-61).

Regarding claim 7, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the one of first, second, and third devices is one of a notebook computer, a cell phone, and a personal digital assistant (col. 6, lines 14-44).

Regarding claim 8, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the first device includes a microcontroller, a safety switch mechanism, a power feed coupled to the safety switch mechanism, and contact points (col. 6, lines 10-63).

Regarding claim 9, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the safety switch mechanism includes a matrix of transistors (col. 7, lines 2-56).

Regarding claim 11, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the first device is to transmit, via the surface, a key to the second device to have the first and second device transmit additional data between the first and second devices via a separate wireless protocol (col. 14, lines 26-60).

Regarding claim 12, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the separate wireless protocol is one of a group wireless communication protocol standards comprising of 802.11 d protocol, 802.11 a protocol 802.11 protocol, or Bluetooth (col. 14, lines 25-45; col. 19, lines 25-55).

Regarding claim 13, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein at least one of the first, second and third devices includes an Ethernet controller, a media access control controller, and a low-pass/high-pass switch filter (col. 6, lines 34-44; col. 19, lines 37-67).

Regarding claim 14, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein at least one of the first, second and third devices is a display device, and the surface is to provide a medium to transmit data to the display to be displayed (col. 6, lines 7-25; col. 7, lines 20-34).

Regarding claim 15, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein at least one of the first, second and third devices is a display device, and the surface is to provide a medium to transmit video to the display to be displayed (col. 6, lines 7-25; col. 7, lines 20-34).

Regarding claim 16, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the surface includes a video capture to receive an analog input and convert the analog signal to digital to be displayed (col. 6, lines 7-25; col. 7, lines 20-34).

Regarding claim 17, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the surface further includes a

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Base System-On-Chip to interface between the video capture, a video buffer, and a controller of the surface (col. 15, lines 4-36).

Regarding claim 18, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the controller of the surface is an 802.11 communication protocol controller (col. 14, lines 25-45; col. 19, lines 25-55).

Regarding claim 19, Shiotsu et al discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the controller of the surface includes a radio frequency transceiver (col. 4, lines 45-63; col. 6, lines 7-25).

Regarding claim 20, Shiotsu et al as modified discloses an apparatus (figs. 1-4) comprising: a surface including a set of contact points, wherein the surface provides an Internet connection to at least one of the first, second and third devices (col. 14, lines 29-60; col. 19, lines 25-50).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claim 10 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marceau Milord whose telephone number is 571-272-7853. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew D. Anderson can be reached on 571-272-4177. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MARCEAU MILORD

Marceau Milord
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2618


MARCEAU MILORD
PRIMARY EXAMINER